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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

JCSM-237-67

1 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Early Deployment of the F-111 to Southeast Asia (S)

1. (S) Inclement weather over the northern portion of North Vietnam continues to limit sustained operations against important targets in the area. CINCPAC has recommended immediate measures be taken to improve the night and all-weather attack capability. The early introduction of the F-111A, in the strike/pathfinder role, would increase CINCPAC's all-weather assets and provide an additional capability to sustain operations over North Vietnam at night and during inclement weather.

2. (S) The Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that you agree in principle to the early deployment of a detachment of four to six F-111A aircraft in order to allow the early initiation of requisite predeployment actions. These actions include the identification of funds necessary at a date earlier than now planned and determination of additional FY 1968 funds which may be required. Initial estimates indicate that your concurrence in early May 1967 would permit deployment on a temporary duty basis during the second quarter FY 1968.

3. (S) Specific plans and appropriate recommendations will be provided within 90 days following your approval in principle.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

Signed

EARLE G. WHEELER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

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